



Schedule of Events

Entry Deadline: April 17, 2026

Show: May 1-3, 2026

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Check-In

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026

7 a.m. - 10 a.m. Check-In*
11 a.m. Weigh-In
1 p.m. Highland Adult Showmanship
2 p.m. Youth Showmanship
6 p.m. Pizza Party and FARM OLYMPICS Family Fun Event

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026

8:00 a.m. Open Jackpot Steer Show
Open Jackpot Market Heifer Show - 15 minutes after the conclusion of the steer show
10:00 a.m. NEHCA Open Show
10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Skill-A-Thon
11:00 a.m. New England Regional Hereford Show followed by
Youth Heifer Show
TBD Cow Chip Bingo
7 p.m. Big East Family Chicken Dinner
Ice Cream Social
Scotch Auction

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026

8 a.m. Youth Market Animal Show
New England Regional Hereford Steer Show
11 a.m. Open Jackpot Heifer Show

**If arriving outside this time frame please call 413-205-5011 to schedule a check in time*

Schedule is tentative to change



General Information

Entry Deadline: April 17, 2026

Show: May 1-3, 2026

Event Location: Eastern States Exposition 1305 Memorial Ave West Springfield, MA

Events to be held:

- Jackpot Steer Show – Shown by weight
- Jackpot Market Heifer Show – Shown by weight
- Jackpot Heifer Show – Shown by breed
- Scotch Auction
- Big East Apparel
- Farm Olympics
- Skill-A-Thon
- Youth Showmanship Competition
- Regional Youth Hereford Heifer & Steer Show
- Youth Steer Show – Shown by weight
- Youth Market Heifer Show – Shown by weight
- Youth Heifer Show – Both papered and commercial
- Cow/Calf Division

Jackpot Premiums: We will be paying out the top 5 places in each of the jackpot shows. Overall payout will be determined at the show.

Accommodations:

Hilton Garden Inn – Offers a discounted rate to our exhibitors. Reserve your room by April 1, 2026. Visit <https://thebigeast.easternstatesexposition.com/p/entry-information1/accommodations> for more information.

Camping: 50 amp services are available with full-utility hookups for \$25 per day. Payment is due upon arrival to the Fairgrounds at Gate 1.

Judges:

Tyler Babbs, Assumption, Illinois: Youth Showmanship, Open Jackpot Steer Show, Open Jackpot Market Heifer Show, NEHCA Open Show, and Open Jackpot Heifer Show.

Ernie Dominguez, Elgin, Texas: Youth Heifer Show, New England Regional Hereford Show, Youth Market Show and Youth Hereford Steer Show.

Show Supplies Onsite: Twist of Fate will be selling livestock products and offering sharpening services at this event. Email twistoffateshowsupplies@gmail.com or call 860-759-9335. We encourage you to stock up on your supplies at the event to avoid paying shipping fees. If you need steel equipment, order ahead for Big East delivery.

The Big East event is sponsored and supported by the New England Junior Hereford Association, New England Hereford Association, the Northeast Highland Cattle Association, the Northeast Highland Cattle Junior Association, and the Eastern States Exposition, as well as local businesses and farms committed to preserving agriculture in the Northeast.

Interested in sponsoring one of these events? Contact us at bigeast@thebige.com or visit <https://thebigeast.easternstatesexposition.com/p/sponsorship>



General Rules & Regulations

Entry Deadline: April 17, 2026
Show: May 1-3, 2026

1. **Entry Deadline & Fees:** Entries are due by April 17, 2026. Late entries (available at check-in) incur an additional \$10 per head.
2. Steers and Market Heifers will ALL be shown by weight. Classes will be broken based on numbers at the discretion of show management. There will be NO overall Market Animal Champion.
3. **Market Heifers:** Heifers may NOT be cross-entered between the Jackpot Breeding and Jackpot Market Heifer divisions, nor between the Youth Breeding and Youth Market Heifer divisions.
4. **Registration Papers:** Required for all heifers not entered in the crossbred division. Heifers will show by breed then by age.
 - a) If you are showing registered cattle, you must specify the registered breed on the entry.
 - b) Dual registered animals must designate which breed they will be showing at the time of entry.
5. Breeds with at least 4 entries will have their own division, otherwise will show in the ORB division.
 - a) National breed association requirements will be enforced when dividing classes. If the national association mandates separate divisions for percentage and fullblood animals, each must meet the minimum requirement to form its own division.
 - b) If someone wishes to have a breed represented WITHOUT 4 head, they may sponsor the division for \$150.
6. **Stalling:** Exhibitors are encouraged to show off their trailers. The location of trailers to be determined by show management at time of arrival. Exhibitors showing off their trailer must clean up all bedding before departure. Stalls will be assigned in the Mallary Complex, if requested.
7. **Tie-Outs:** Tie-Outs are provided by the fairgrounds and will be available on a first-come first-served basis.
8. **Feed and Bedding:** Initial bedding will be provided for those stalling in the Mallary Complex. Exhibitors will need to supply their own bedding for the tie-out area. Straw, shavings and feed will be available for purchase.
9. **Camping:** Spots are available for \$25 per night. No reservation is required—payment is due upon arrival to Gate 1.
10. **Health Requirements:** All animals entering the show grounds must comply with Massachusetts and national animal health regulations. Exhibitors are required to present an official health certificate, issued by a licensed veterinarian dated January 1, 2026, or later.

Any animal showing signs of illness, including but not limited to fever, open wounds, coughing, nasal discharge, ringworm, or warts, may be dismissed from the premises at the discretion of the show officials and/or an on-site health inspector. Exhibitors are responsible for the care and well-being of their animals throughout the event. Failure to comply with these health rules may result in disqualification.
11. The Eastern States Exposition Showring Policy and Code of Ethics applies to all participants. To view the complete policy, visit: [Showring Policy and Code of Ethics](#).
12. **Release:** Exhibitors may leave upon completion of their showing.
13. **Dogs:** All dogs must be on a leash at all times.
14. **Scoters:** Any use of personalized wheeled vehicles, apart from mobility scooters in the barn, shall be subject to fine. This includes, but is not limited to, anything that an individual can ride (e.g., bicycle, hoverboard, action scooter, or similar wheeled vehicles.)



Jackpot & Youth Show Rules & Regulations

Entry Deadline: April 17, 2026
Show: May 1-3, 2026

Jackpot Rules

- 1. General Rules:** Review the General Rules and Regulations. These rules and regulations will apply in the jackpot heifer and steer shows.
- 2. Entry Deadline & Fees:** Entries are due by April 17, 2026, with a \$45 fee per entry. Late entries (available at check-in) incur an additional \$10 per head.
- 3. Age of Participants:** Open to exhibitors of all ages.
- 4. Check-In:** Check-in begins at 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 31, 2026. **All Jackpot animals must be checked in by 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 2, 2026.** Upon arrival, please have health papers and registration papers ready for inspection. If arriving outside of scheduled check-in times, exhibitors must call 413-205-5011 before unloading any animals.
- 5. Weigh-In:** The official weigh-in for steers and market heifers will take place on Friday at 11 a.m. Animals arriving on Saturday morning will be weighed at check-in, directly off the trailer.
- 6. Jackpot Premiums:** Top 5 places in each of the jackpot shows will receive a payout. Overall payout will be determined at the show.

Youth Rules

- 1. General Rules:** Review the General Rules and Regulations. These rules and regulations will apply in the youth heifer and steer shows.
- 2. Entry Deadline & Fees:** Entries are due by April 17, 2026, with a \$35 fee per entry. Registered Hereford steers will incur an additional \$35 entry fee to show in the Regional Hereford steer show. Late entries (available at check-in) incur an additional \$10 per head.
- 3. Age of Participants:** Open to all exhibitors ages 5-21 as of January 1, 2026.
- 4. Check-In:** Check-in begins at 12:00 noon on Thursday, May 1, 2026. All Youth animals must be checked in by 12:00 noon on Friday, May 2, 2025. Upon arrival, please have health papers and registration papers ready for inspection.
- 5. Weigh-In:** The official weigh-in for steers and market heifers will take place on Friday afternoon at 11 a.m.
- 6. Registration papers or leases in the name of the junior exhibiting are required for all heifers not entered in the crossbred division. Heifers will show by breed then by age.**
- 7. Showmanship:** Showmanship will be blow n' go. A Top Five Overall will be selected, along with a Top Five in each of the following divisions, except for Peewee:
 - Peewee: Ages 5-8 (Top Five does not apply)
 - Junior: Ages 9-12
 - Intermediate: Ages 13-16
 - Senior: Ages 17-21Call backs for Top Five Overall Showman will be at the discretion of the judge and/or show management.
- 8. Hereford Eligibility & Requirements:** All Herefords must be owned solely by the youth exhibitor or jointly with a sibling to be eligible for the Hereford Regional Junior Show. A minimum of 30 days of ownership is required. Tattoos that are missing, illegible, altered, incorrect, or otherwise inconsistent with official American Hereford Association (AHA) records may result in disqualification at the discretion of the designated AHA official.
 - a. Hereford Youth Steers:** Hereford youth steers must have steer registration papers from the AHA to qualify for the Regional status of the Hereford Show. Additionally, Hereford steers must have a valid DNA profile on file with the AHA. Exhibitors are required to present an official letter from the AHA confirming their steer's DNA profile, along with the steer's registration paper, at check-in. Hereford steers may also enter the Youth Market Animal Show by paying double the entry fee. On the entry form, please indicate that the animal is entered in the Hereford Steer class.



Class Breaks

Entry Deadline: April 17, 2026

Show: May 1-3, 2026

Show	Class #	Class Name	Birthdates
Jackpot Steers	100	All Jackpot Steers	n/a
Jackpot Market Heifers	100	All Market Heifers	n/a
Jackpot Heifers	101	Papered Heifers	8/30/24 - 1/1/26
	130	Non-Papered Heifers	8/30/24 - 1/1/26
Youth Steer Show	407	All Youth Steers	n/a
	401	Youth Hereford Steers	n/a
Youth Market Heifers	450	All Youth Market Heifers	n/a
Youth Heifer Show*	01	Cow/Calf	Calf born after 9/1/25
	05	Junior Heifer Calf	1/1/26 and after
	06	Senior Heifer Calf	9/1/25 - 12/31/25
	09	Summer Yearling Heifer	5/1/25 - 8/31/25
	12	Spring Yearling Heifer	3/1/25 - 4/30/25
	15	Junior Yearling Heifer	1/1/25 - 2/29/25
	16	Senior Yearling Heifer	9/1/24 - 12/31/24
	17	Two-Year-Old Heifer	1/1/24 - 8/30/24
	25	Bull Calf	10/1/25 or later
	Regional Youth Hereford Show**	301	Cow/Calf
304		Spring Heifer Calves	3/1/26 - 6/30/26
305		Junior Heifer Calves	1/1/26 - 2/29/26
308		Senior Heifer Calves	11/1/25 - 12/31/25
309		Senior Heifer Calves	8/1/25 - 10/31/25
312		Late Summer Yearlings	6/1/25 - 7/31/25
313		Early Summer Yearlings	5/1/25 - 5/31/25
316		Spring Yearlings	3/1/25 - 4/30/25
319		Junior Yearlings	1/1/25 - 2/29/25
320		Senior Yearlings	8/1/24 - 12/31/24
328		Bred & Owned Bull Calf	Born after 8/1/25
329		Bred & Owned Yearling Bull	8/1/24 - 7/31/25
		Bred & Owned Two-Year-Old Bull	1/1/24 - 7/31/24

*Breeds with at least 4 entries will have their own division.

**Will be split into AHA divisions accordingly



Summary Sheet

Entry Deadline: April 17, 2026

Show: May 1-3, 2026

Description	Fee	Quantity	Total
Youth Heifer	\$35		
Youth Steer	\$35		
Youth Hereford Steer	\$35		
Jackpot Heifer	\$45		
Jackpot Steer	\$45		
Adult Dinner Ticket	\$20		
10 & Under Dinner Ticket	\$12		
Camping (per night)	to be paid upon arrival		
Sponsorship Donation			
TOTAL			

- Make check payable to: The Big East
- If you have any questions, please call or email 413-205-5011 or email at bigeast@thebige.com
- We encourage all participants to donate \$35 towards The Big East.
- Entry deadline is April 17, all entries must be postmarked to ensure your breed receives it's special show.
- *Late entries will be accepted up until show time for an additional \$10 per show. No late fee will be incurred for Jackpot Shows.*
- Mail entries to:
 - The Big East
 - Ag/Ed Dept
 - 1305 Memorial Avenue
 - West Springfield, MA 01089

PLEASE READ AND SIGN THIS AGREEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY AND LIABILITY:

The Big East, its officials, officers, directors, employees and agents, hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Big East" and the Owner, Exhibitor, Associates, employees, their agents and/or representatives, hereinafter collectively referred to as "Participants." At no time will the Big East assume care or control of any animals, livestock and or personal property of the exhibitor. At all times the participants will have full control and will care, feed and keep their animal, livestock and personal property safe. All in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Big East and the show management. In no case will the Big East or Management be responsible for any loss, injury or damage to any animal, or loss, injury or damage done by or arising from any animal exhibited by him/her and shall indemnify the Big East against legal or other proceedings. Participants will indemnify and hold harmless the Big East for all damage, expenses or liabilities incurred as a result of any expense, loss, claims, cost or any liability, including, but not limited to, consultant fees, legal or court cost, Big East to management labor expenses and or cost, as well as expensed and or cost for blood, tissue, urine, milk or carcass sampling and testing incurred as a result of Big East rule and regulation violations and all agreements here in, including, but not limited to unethical fitting, filling, illegal or non-approved use of drugs, medication and or prohibited substance as a result of participants involvement in the Big East. A signed entry serves as an agreement to comply with all rules and regulations contained within this mailing and all other official Big East mailings. An unsigned entry will be returned with any accompanying payment. This signature certifies I have read, understand and agree to abide by all Rules and Regulations. If participant is a minor, Participant's parent or guardian must sign the entry form acknowledging they have read the Big East rules and regulations and agree to observe and abide by these rules and regulations. Parent or guardian further acknowledges that they have read and explained to the Participant this agreement and explained and cautioned the Participant on the penalties for prohibited substance, unethical fitting and tampering of livestock. I (we) have read and understand all aforementioned rules and regulations and conditions of this agreement. I (we) certify the above information is true to the best of my knowledge and entries comply with all aforementioned rules and regulations in respect to my participation and all other persons and enterprises with an interest in the entered animal(s) and for those of anyone else, including but not limited to fitters, who are involved in the care of, show preparation and/or showing of the entered animals

Signature of Exhibitor

Signature of Guardian

Date



Entry Form

Entry Deadline: April 17, 2026

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Reminder: Please check all shows each animal is participating in.

Exhibitor Name _____ Birthdate: (required for showmanship) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

T-Shirt Size _____ Stalling Requests _____

I will be participating in: Please check all that apply _____ Showmanship _____ Skill-A-Thon (no pre-entry needed)

Heifer Entries: Please write "Crossbred" for Reg. # if she will be shown as a non-papered heifer.

Breed _____ Class # _____ Animal Name _____ Reg# _____ DOB _____

Sire _____ Reg.# _____ Dam _____ Reg. # _____

840 Tag # _____

Showing in (circle all that apply): Youth Heifer Youth Market Heifer Jackpot Heifer Jackpot Market Heifer

Breed _____ Class # _____ Animal Name _____ Reg# _____ DOB _____

840 Tag # _____

Sire _____ Reg.# _____ Dam _____ Reg. # _____

Showing in (circle all that apply): Youth Heifer Youth Market Heifer Jackpot Heifer Jackpot Market Heifer

Steer Entries (Hereford Youth Steers: please provide reg. number and proof of DNA profile on file must be presented):

Breed _____ Steer Name _____ Birthdate _____ 840 Tag # _____

Reg# _____

Showing in (circle all that apply): Youth Steer Youth Hereford Steer Jackpot Steer

Breed _____ Steer Name _____ Birthdate _____ 840 Tag # _____

Reg# _____

Showing in (circle all that apply): Youth Steer Youth Hereford Steer Jackpot Steer